

Lockheed's Centre for Innovation

Lockheed Martin has nearly completed its integration, experimentation, analysis and visualisation Centre for Innovation. This combines innovative process, advanced technologies and a robust analytical test-bed to help government and industry experts create new operational concepts and net-centric solutions. The Center is on schedule to open this Spring.

“Our customers are facing dynamic new environments, where the speed and assimilation of data into real time, and actionable information is paramount,” said Bob Stevens, Lockheed Martin’s president and CEO. “The Center for Innovation is a unique facility where we will collaborate with customers and industry partners in developing the kind of integrated, net-centric solutions needed to address the present and emerging threats facing our nation.”

The Centre for Innovation (previously the Global Vision Integration Centre) name changed to accurately define the facility’s role in integrating and leveraging capabilities of current and future systems, sensors and platforms to help customers transform 21st century military and government operations.

“More than a demonstration facility, the Centre focuses on rapid prototyping, collaborative experimentation and exhaustive analysis to address our customers’ most pressing needs and future requirements,” says Stan Sloane, executive VP, Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems and Solutions, who leads the company’s horizontal integration initiatives.

The Centre’s initial efforts address: advanced command, control and communications and information operations; joint force projection; logistics; surveillance and reconnaissance; missile defense; and homeland security.

The Center includes a Global Information Grid test-bed – the first of its kind in an industry R&D facility – for platform and systems integration and rigorous evaluation of potential net-centric solutions.

The test-bed allows collaborative experimentation and testing of a system or solution in a simulated operational net-centric environment, prior to development or deployment.

Located in Suffolk, Virginia, the Center is close to major customers, including US Joint Forces Command, US Navy Fleet Forces Command, US Air Force Air Combat Command, the US Army Training and Doctrine Command, and others.

The Center’s building and infrastructure includes:

- 2mft³ of reconfigurable space.
- support for civil, intelligence, & DoD ops-level processing, sensitive projects.
- modelling and simulation systems for experimentation and analysis.
- Global Information Grid testbed.
- accommodation of actual military vehicles or aircraft to evaluate on-board systems in a networked operating environment.

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